

Remarks

The Rejection of Claims 1-8 Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-8, under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being anticipated by SO-1350 Brochure and SO-5000 Microscope Information available from [www.scanoptics.com](http://www.scanoptics.com). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection inasmuch as the rejection may apply to the amended and newly added claims.

Applicants have amended the independent claims of the present application for patent to include the limitation that the power inlet and auxiliary power outlet are each rated to provide an identical voltage. The Scanoptics publications cited by the Examiner merely illustrates a standup type microscope stand wherein the stand is adapted to comprise a power inlet comprising a first voltage (for example 120V) and an auxiliary power outlet rated to provide a second voltage (12V). Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified brochures illustrate a stand for a standup type microscope whereas the present invention is related to a desktop type microscope stand. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Rejection of Claims 3, 5, 6 and 8 Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected Claims 3, 5, 6 and 8 under 35 USC § 103 as being obvious in view of the above-identified Scanoptics' publications. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection inasmuch as the rejection may apply to the amended and newly added claims.

With regard to Claims 5, 6 and 8, as noted above, Applicants have amended all independent claims to include the limitation that the microscope stand of the present invention

comprises power inlets and auxiliary power outlets rated for providing the identical voltage. The Scanoptics publications cited by the Examiner do not disclose, teach or suggest a microscope stand or a microscope stand for a desktop wherein the power inlets and power outlets are rated for providing an identical voltage. Additionally, because the Scanoptics references disclose a power inlet of a first voltage and a power outlet of a second voltage, the Scanoptics references serve to teach away from the present invention. Finally, it should be appreciated that the microscope stand of the present invention comprises a desktop microscope stand whereas the Scanoptics microscope stand is not operatively arranged for desktop purposes.

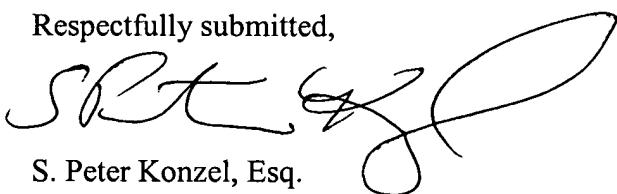
With regard to Claim 3, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim now depends from nonobvious Claim 1.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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